



PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, March 7, 2024

6:00 p.m., Virtual

Minutes

Attendance: PIC Chair Ashley Walker, Trustee Jennifer Cooney, Trustee Karen Torrie-Racine, Katy Ferguson, Ellie Fuller, Sharon Washburn, Norma McDonald

1. Land Acknowledgement, Prayer – Norma McDonald
2. Welcome – PIC Chair Ashley Walker
3. Sharing Ministry Presentation of January 22, 2024 - Norma McDonald shared the slide deck and conversation from the January Ministry of Education provincial parent engagement meeting. Slide deck provided:
[Ministry of Education Parent Engagement PIC Deck January 2024 FINAL pp.pptx](#)
4. Review of Minutes from November 2023 meeting – Ashley Walker
 - a. Ashley reviewed the list of parent engagement ideas generated at the November PIC meeting in Cornwall. (List is provided through a link in the attached November PIC Minutes) [PIC Regional Meeting Parent Discussion November 14th 2023.docx](#)
 - Online safety was suggested as a future PIC presentation item. Norma suggested CDSBEO Chief Information Officer Steve Payne given the tremendous work he and his team have been doing with cyber safety.
5. Discussion items –
 - PRO Grants – process and usage. *Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants Funding of \$2.4 million to support PRO Grants is moving from PPF into a new component of the Parent Engagement Allocation within the School Foundation Grant. This new PRO component, funded through a combined amount of \$1,500 per school board and \$500 per school committee, supports school boards to work with their Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) in order to lead initiatives that address local parent needs and/or remove barriers that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children’s learning and educational progress. With this change, the Parent Engagement Allocation has three*



components – PIC, School Council, and PRO – each with its own funding calculation. School boards are reminded that they are expected to comply with Ontario Regulation 612/00: School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees. Norma encouraged schools to use their funds. She will share an updated finance report with PIC through email.

- Trustee Cooney and Katy Ferguson provided information about how planning large school wide events such as craft shows, year end events, can determine the success of having enough members to run Catholic School Councils in our schools. Katy shared that at both her schools where she is the Chair of CSC, St. Michael CHS and Holy Cross Catholic School in Kemptville, enjoy very large memberships for their Catholic School Councils. Discussed ideas to increase parent participation.

6. Next meeting date: April 29th, 2024, Combined meeting with Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, guest speaker: Waubgeshig Rice, KBO, light supper at 5:00 p.m. for committee members and presentation to begin at 6:00 p.m.

- 2023-24 Meeting Dates –
 - November 14th, 2023 in-person regional event hosted at Holy Trinity CSS in Cornwall by Ellie Fuller – guest speaker Senator Bernadette Clement.
 - March 7th, 2024 – Virtual planning meeting
 - April 29th, 2024 – In-person regional event hosted at the Kemptville Board Office Board Room by Katy Ferguson. Guest presenter Waubgeshig Rice, author and journalist. 5pm – 7:30 pm. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee also in attendance and CDSBEO parents invited.
 - Final meeting of the year – looking for volunteers from PIC to host a meeting in our western region. Will arrange for another presenter once location is determined. Please share suggestions with Norma and Ashley Walker.

7. Standing Items –

- Parent Involvement Committee Handbook – please click on the link provided to review role of PIC [PIC Handbook.pdf](#).
- Vacancy for Lanark County still to be filled.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

6:00 p.m., Holy Trinity CSS, hosted by PIC member Ellie Fuller

Minutes

In person PIC event with 35 people in attendance

2. Land Acknowledgement, Prayer – Norma McDonald
3. Welcome and emcee – PIC Chair Ashley Walker
4. Guest Speaker: Senator Bernadette Clement
 - a. Focus for Senator Clement’s keynote address was her personal story as a Black woman in politics and her hope to inspire other Black students to live out their dreams. She spoke of being a good neighbor, volunteering, message of welcome, diversity, and intersectionality.
 - b. Thanked by Trustee Karen Torrie-Racine
5. Parent Discussion – facilitated by PIC Chair Ashley Walker
 - a. Requested input from parents on how PIC can support, ideas for parent engagement and workshops.
 - b. [PIC Regional Meeting Parent Discussion November 14th 2023.docx](#)
6. Membership Update –
 - a. Danielle McFadden and Launa Moore have resigned
 - b. One position from Lanark County to be filled
7. Review of Minutes from May 2023 meeting
8. Next PIC meeting will be held in Kemptville, waiting for confirmation of guest speaker to determine date.
9. Parent Involvement Committee Handbook – please click on the link provided to review role of PIC [PIC Handbook.pdf](#).

